

85-27

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Shenandoah	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON: New Market Battlefield Park	
AND/OR HISTORIC: New Market Battlefield	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: W side of Rt. 11, 1 mi. N of intersection with Rt. 211.			
CITY OR TOWN: (New Market vic.)			
STATE Virginia	CODE 45	COUNTY: Shenandoah	CODE 171

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC			
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Virginia Military Institute, Mr. James J. Geary, Director			
STREET AND NUMBER: New Market Battlefield Park, Box 1864			
CITY OR TOWN: New Market	STATE: Virginia	CODE 45	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Shenandoah County Court House			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Woodstock	STATE: Virginia	CODE 45	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #85-27			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission			
STREET AND NUMBER: Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building			
CITY OR TOWN: Richmond	STATE: Virginia	CODE 45	

STATE: Virginia	COUNTY: Shenandoah	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☐ Excellent☒ Good☐ Fair☐ Deteriorated☐ Ruins☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered☒ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The New Market Battlefield Park consists of about 160 acres west of the Valley Pike (U. S. Route 11) and about one mile north of New Market. The rolling countryside is relatively free of trees and shrubs, and the land generally slopes from west to east. In the middle of the battlefield stands the Bushong House, used by both sides as a hospital during the battle and now the visitor center for the park. Trails lead across the battlefield and up to the point where the Federal cannon were emplaced. Several full-scale models of Civil War fieldpieces are on display on the bluff, which also has overlooks that provide excellent views of the valley and the Shenandoah River.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian    ☐ 16th Century    ☐ 18th Century    ☐ 20th Century  
☐ 15th Century    ☐ 17th Century    ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1864

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |  |  |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

As one of the supporting movements in Grant's campaign for Richmond in the spring of 1864, Union troops were to advance up the Shenandoah Valley and take possession of Southwest Virginia, severing Confederate railroad lines and destroying Lee's bases of supply. On May 9, 1864, Union Major General Franz Sigel began moving his command of about 6,500 men toward Staunton, a vital rail center controlled by Confederate forces under Major General John C. Breckinridge. By the time the Union troops had arrived at Strasburg, Breckinridge had gathered his command of about 5,000 men, including 247 cadets from The Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, and marched from Staunton to oppose them. Breckinridge chose New Market as his battleground since the turnpike from Front Royal and Luray joined the Valley Pike (the main north-south thoroughfare) there. On May 15, 1864, the Confederates defeated the slightly larger Union forces. It was the only engagement in the Civil War in which cadets participated.

The Battle of New Market has been called one of the most important secondary engagements of the Civil War. Douglas Southall Freeman wrote:

Had Sigel not been driven back when he was, the Valley of Virginia might have been occupied by the Federals before the wheat crop was harvested. Hunger would have come sooner. In addition, the western end of the Virginia Central Railroad would have fallen into hostile hands. The prospects of losing that supply line might have compelled Lee to send part of his Army to the Valley while pressure at Spotsylvania was heaviest. Short as was the time saved by the Battle of New Market, it was invaluable.

Twenty-three days later, however, the Union Army, then under the command of Major General David Hunter, returned to New Market. The struggle for supremacy in the Shenandoah Valley continued for another five months, the turning point coming on October 19, 1864, when Major General Philip H. Sheridan won a crushing victory at Cedar Creek.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Shenandoah	
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(Number all entries)

8. A graduate of The Virginia Military Institute, Mr. George Collins, acquired most of the battlefield in 1944 and willed the property to his alma mater, which received the 160-acre tract in 1964, with a three million dollar endowment fund. A program of restoration and development is now in progress.

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Battles and Leaders of the Civil War (4 vols., New York, 1884-1888).  
 Freeman, Douglas Southall, Lee's Lieutenants (New York, 1944).  
 McDermott, John D. and Charles W. Snell, New Market Battlefield Park,  
 Virginia (unpublished manuscript), special report prepared for the  
 National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings.  
 Turner, E. R., The New Market Campaign (Richmond, 1912).  
 Short, James R., "Field of Honor," Virginia Cavalcade, Vol. 3, No. 4 (Spring,  
 1954), 30-35.

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	38 ° 40 ' 12 "	78 ° 40 ' 23 "	0		
NE	38 ° 40 ' 12 "	78 ° 39 ' 40 "			
SE	38 ° 39 ' 40 "	78 ° 39 ' 40 "			
SW	38 ° 39 ' 40 "	78 ° 40 ' 23 "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 160 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:		DATE
Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director		
ORGANIZATION		
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission	March 16, 1970	
STREET AND NUMBER:		
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Richmond	Virginia	45

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☐ Local ☐

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman

Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Shenandoah	
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COMMON: New Market Battlefield Park			
AND/OR HISTORIC: New Market Battlefield			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
W side of Rt. 11, 1 mi. N of intersection with Rt. 211.			
CITY OR TOWN:			
(New Market vic.)			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Virginia	45	Shenandoah	171
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE:			
U.S.G.S. map 15', quadrangle Mt. Jackson, Virginia			
SCALE: 1:62500			
DATE: 1942			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
W side of Rt. 11, 1 mi. N of intersection with Rt. 211.			
CITY OR TOWN:			
(New Market vic.)			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Virginia	45	Shenandoah	171
<b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>			
PHOTO CREDIT:			
DATE OF PHOTO:			
NEGATIVE FILED AT:			
<b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			

U.S.G.S. -15' quadrangle (Scale:1:62500)  
 Mt. Jackson, Va. 1942

New Market Battlefield Park  
 Latitude Longitude  
 NW 38° 40' 12" 78° 40' 23"  
 NE 38° 40' 12" 78° 39' 40"  
 SE 38° 39' 40" 78° 39' 40"  
 SW 38° 39' 40" 78° 40' 23"

